

**Department of Public Works and Transportation
Montgomery County, Maryland**

DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES



The SORRT program provides recycling and buying recycled information to students and their parents at Veirs Mill Elementary School's summer festival.

***MONTHLY REPORT
JUNE 2003***



Printed on Recycled and Recyclable Paper

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OVERVIEW

Tonnage at a Glance

The following table shows key material flows during the current month, fiscal year to date (FY Total), and current calendar month in the two prior fiscal years. (County fiscal year 2003 began July 1, 2002.)

FACILITY	Jun FY 03	FY 03 Total	Jun FY 02	Jun FY 01
Materials Recovery Facility ⁽¹⁾	6,912 tons	85,194 tons	6,730 tons	6,655 tons
Brunswick Landfill Facility ⁽²⁾	25,103 tons	238,349 tons	20,691 tons	15,834 ⁽⁴⁾ tons
Resource Recovery Facility ⁽³⁾	62,153 tons	625,711 tons	50,102 tons	42,781 tons
Yard Trim Compost Facility	6,759 tons	80,131 ⁽⁵⁾ tons	4,463 tons	5,014 tons

⁽¹⁾MRF tons reported are outgoing.

⁽²⁾This category only addresses waste sent to the landfill for disposal. It does not include rubble that is recycled.

⁽³⁾RRF tonnage refers to tons burned (processed). Waste shipped from the Transfer Station but not burned is in the pit and is not included in the tonnage presented here.

⁽⁴⁾ Does not include 922 tons of ash sent to American Ash Recycling pilot program in June 2001.

⁽⁵⁾ Does not include 1,116 tons of yard trim exported to a waste management composting facility in Tidewater, VA.

Revenue Analysis and Systems Evaluation – During June, program staff:

- Researched 328 new property billing characteristics and entered into TXA 170 system;
- Processed vacancy refunds payable in June;
- Updated Access and Excel spreadsheets for monthly contractor reports;
- Updated residential billing unit counts by collection area;
- Updated street listing maps;
- Continued analysis on nonresidential properties to support charge rates;
- Continued to research solid waste fee abnormalities in the property tax database;
- Continued assisting the Transfer Station with auditing and reconciliation procedures;
- Prepared and mailed out six month hauler report forms and reminder letters;
- Several staff members received training in new software (Crystal Reports™);
- Worked with OMB to capture mainframe personnel cost data and created a Crystal Report tool that can be used to quickly and accurately create updates for use in DSWS budgeting processes;
- Generated Hauler Credit Account invoices for June 2003 totaling \$1,668,738.36 (an increase of \$387,165.18 over June 2002);
- Sent Notice of Tip Fee Increase to all credit account holders;

- Calculated collateral increases to hauler credit accounts resulting from tip fee increase, and sent corresponding notices to haulers;
- Added two new hauler credit accounts;
- Assisted with staff shortages at the Transfer Station (one day per week);
- Created a tool in Excel using Paradigm data to enable the balancing of individual cash drawers at the Transfer Station;
- Another staff member was temporarily detailed to the Transfer Station to run new daily cash drawer close out analysis;
- Reviewed and accepted Consulting Engineer's Replacement Reserve Fund Calculation (under 5.14 of the Master Authorization);
- Worked with Director's office to plan means of complying with an OMB request for accelerated budget submission;
- Worked with OMB on reserve policies;
- Continued research on nonresidential system benefit charge options;
- Prepared updates for DSWS web pages describing solid waste charges;
- Provided extensive information to Washington Post reporter (none of it cited);
- Prepared briefing for T&E on economic incentives potentially influencing commercial recycling; and
- Assisted, as needed, with year end budget processes.

CITIZEN COMMITTEES

Facilities Implementation Group – FIG met on July 8th at the Gothic Barn in Dickerson. Eleven FIG Members, four County staff, two contract staff and a guest speaker were in attendance. Topics discussed included the Health Risk Assessment and RRF capacity.

The next FIG meeting will be held on September 9, 2003, at the Gothic Barn.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee – SWAC's monthly meeting was held Tuesday, June 3, at the EOB 6th Floor Conference Room. Ten SWAC members, Councilmember Thomas Perez, six County staff and four guests were in attendance. SWAC members held an open forum with Councilmember Perez and received presentations on MCPS and private school recycling.

COLLECTIONS

Refuse – Refuse collections went as scheduled for the month of June. There were no disruptions of service.

Contractor Performance – During the month of June 2003, DSWS received 882 complaints; 111 more than June 2002, which numbered 771.

Customer Service – DSWS received 10,444 incoming calls and 135 follow-up calls were made for quality check. There were 1,166 blue bins ordered through the Customer Service Staff.

Recycling – Mixed paper tonnages for the residential program during the past 52 weeks are as follows:

CURRENT PERIOD	POUNDS PER HOUSEHOLD	CORRESPONDING PERIOD PREVIOUS YEAR
6/10/02-7/05/02	9.21	9.21
7/08/02-8/02/02	8.74	8.62
8/05/02-8/30/02	9.24	9.10
9/02/02-9/27/02	10.15	10.08
9/30/02-10/25/02	10.45	11.10
10/28/02-11/22/02	11.04	10.83
11/25/02-12/20/02	11.74	11.52
12/23/02-1/17/03	9.75	9.58
1/20/03-2/14/03	8.83	9.01
2/17/03-3/14/03	8.94	9.02
3/17/03-4/11/03	10.01	9.73
4/14/03-5/09/03	9.93	9.81
5/12/03-6/06/03	10.09	9.58

Enforcement Actions – No citations were issued for violations of the County's Solid Waste Laws.

Five NOV's were issued for violations of the County's Solid Waste Laws:

Three NOV's	Failed to maintain an approved container for storage of solid waste
One NOV	Improperly stored or permitted solid wastes to accumulate
One NOV	Collect or transport solid waste without a valid collector's license

Web Site - The following is information gathered from the Montgomery County Solid Waste web site through the month of June:

List Memberships	
HHW Announcements	393
Holiday Reminder List	2,796
Newsletter Helper	80
Usage Counters – June 2003	
Number of Visits	3,354
Number of Page Views	6,033
Among the most frequently visited pages were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling • Trash • Household Hazardous Waste • Propane Tanks • Transfer Station • Yard trim Recycling • Paper Recycling • Recycling Center • Scrap Metal 	

E-Mail – June 2003	
Top Issues :	223
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service issues • Yard trim/mulch/compost • Computer/electronics recycling • Scrap metal (several lawnmower disposal questions) • SORRT 	
Blue Bins	380

Comments we received in June included:

- Thanks for such an effective and efficient service [for blue bin orders]. This process was easy and my new bin was delivered on Thursday. Congratulations on an effective use of information technology to provide customer service to Montgomery County residents.
- Thank you so much. The link you provided told me exactly what I needed to know. I will call them. You need not follow-up. I really appreciate your time. It was most helpful and saved me a lot of phone work.
- I'm impressed with your prompt response. Thanks. Can you provide me with more information on the burning of trash at the Resource Recovery Facility? I have never heard of this before.

WASTE MINIMIZATION

Computer Recycling – Approximately 53 tons of computers were recycled in June.

Bicycles – Approximately 1.2 tons of bicycles were picked up by Pedals for Progress in June.

The Housing Opportunities Commission (HOC) did not budget for the Furniture Reuse Program for FY04, and as such it ended on June 30, 2003. Work on the new "Reuse-it-Again" guide resumes.

Department of Environmental Protection's Home Composting and Source Reduction Activities – The GreenMan Show continues to air daily on Cable Channel 6, with online streaming video and access to past shows via online archives.

The Green Man column continues to appear in numerous Maryland editions of The Gazette Newspapers and on the web at both <http://www.gazette.net/columnists/> and <http://greenman.askdep.com>.

Several new PDF-formatted fact sheets on composting, grasscycling, and environmental lawn care are now posted on the greenman.askdep.com site and at both the composting.askdep.com and grasscycling.askdep.com websites.

New school-wide worm composting systems are being developed for Poolesville Elementary School and Forest Knolls Elementary School and should be operational by the beginning of the fall 2003 school term.

HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAMS

Household Hazardous Waste Collection – There were two HHW events in June. Events were held at the Transfer Station on June 8, 2003 and at Westland Middle School on June 21, 2003. There were 820 and 358 participants at the two events, respectively. The new roof over the entire HHW compound is complete.

Small Quantity Generator Ecowise Program – One Small Quantity Generator (SQG)/Ecowise event was held on June 11, 2003 with six companies participating.

AIR PERMITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

Resource Recovery Facility (RRF): CEMS Tracking of RRF Operations – In June, the Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEMS) continued to track the percent load, certain engineering parameters and emissions of all 3 units. The CEMS indicated that all 3 units operated until June 20th at approximately 4 p.m. when unit 3 was brought offline due to a feed-chute pluggage. The repairs were completed within approximately 25 hours and the unit was brought back online at approximately 8 p.m. on June 21st. There were no equipment malfunctions that affected the facility emissions other than this incident.

On June 17th, Covanta performed the monthly "Opacity Test" for June. The opacity test is a requirement under Title V of the RRF Air Permit. As in past tests, the opacity readings were 0% compared to the Title V Permit limit of 10%.

In the first week of June, the set of four CEMS CD-ROM's was updated to include CEMS data up to May 31, 2003. Copies of the CD's were placed in the Rockville and Poolesville libraries and distributed to the Air Quality Subcommittee.

FIG-SWAC Air Quality Subcommittee – The field sampling for the spring ambient air monitoring program commenced on May 21st and concluded on June 23rd. There were no problems. This information was communicated to the Subcommittee.

In response to FIG's suggestion in the May meeting that the County compare EPA's toxicity factors with the toxicity factors used by other states such as California in connection with the RRF Multiple Pathway Health Risk Study, ENSR is currently examining this issue and will prepare a memo summarizing the differences. This document is expected to be ready in August and will be submitted to the Subcommittee for review.

Oaks Landfill Energy Recovery Facility: Leachate Evaporation Technology – For the entire month of June, the leachate evaporator remained shutdown. The backup flare operated throughout the month. SCS has indicated that the new flare will be delivered to the site the second week of July and will be connected to the gas collection system by the end of July. The currently operating backup flare will serve as a standby.

Contracts and RFP's – ENSR commenced work under the new contract that runs for a year starting from May, 2003; the contract can be extended up to two years. ENSR is conducting the Cumulative Health Risk Study and the Ambient Air Monitoring Program under this contract. ENSR will also conduct the Non-Air Media Ambient Monitoring Program in spring 2004.

The Office of Procurement approved the selection of Technical Environmental Services of Gaithersburg for conducting the Meteorological Monitoring Program. A draft contract has been prepared and is undergoing review by DSWS. The document will be submitted for review by the Office of County Attorney in July.

The SCS contract has been extended until July 2004.

In response to the RFP for the Meteorological Monitoring Program that was advertised on April 8th, the County received only one proposal. The Qualification & Evaluation Committee (Q&SC) evaluated the proposal and recommended the selection of the proposer. On May 23rd, the Chief, DSWS, sent the Q&SC's recommendation to the Office of Procurement. DSWS is currently awaiting Procurement's approval of the selection.

Because of poor contractual performance of the Bentech project, the Director, Office of Procurement issued a "Final Notice of Termination" to Bentech. On May 29th, the Contractor filed an appeal with the Director, Department of Public Works & Transportation (DPW&T). The appeal is under review by DSWS and the Office of the County Attorney.

RECYCLING

Public Outreach – The draft of the brochure describing how mixed paper is recycled once a resident puts it in a recycling bin is being finalized for production.

Commercial Recycling and Waste Reduction – Staff continued to perform on-site visits of businesses in June and resolved several complaints. Staff assisted Westfield Shoppingtown Wheaton management with kicking off their new recycling program, and the entire mall will have recycling services available to all tenants by mid-July. Staff completed reviewing proofs of several outreach materials that are being provided in multiple languages and are expected to be printed and delivered in the early summer. Staff participated in three special events and met with the recycling staff at Discovery Communications new building in downtown Silver Spring to review their recycling program and to offer suggestions for improvements.

Multi-Family Recycling – Translations of the Recycling 1-2-3 brochure in Chinese and Russian are being updated. A residents' recycling guidebook is being developed. Summer issues of the TRRAC newsletter are being prepared. A shipment of 5,000 baby blue bins was received on June 30th; a distribution plan is being developed to get the blue bins out to properties needing them. The new Program Manager started June 18th. On June 30th, the new Program Specialist started.

Mixed Paper Recycling – Existing educational materials are distributed to residents at events. Mixed paper is the commodity that is used to illustrate what happens to recyclable materials once a person puts them into their recycling bin. This brochure is under development.

Volunteer Activities – June was a busy planning month. Volunteers continue to assist with HHW collections and 6 Ivy Mount School students provided 26 hours of office assistance. The summer issue of the Recycleletter will be out shortly. Planning for two upcoming Block Captain training sessions is underway and County fair prep work and scheduling is underway. The Division is already registered for 8 fall events.

PILOT PROGRAMS

Mixed Paper Pilot – The June totals for the Potomac Paper Cart program are:

6/04/03	15,940	19.68 lbs. per household
6/11/03	19,040	23.51 lbs. per household
6/18/03	14,400	17.78 lbs. per household
6/25/03	14,800	18.27 lbs. per household
Total	64,180	19.81 lbs. Average

The current average weight per house for the 86 weeks of recorded information of the cart program is 20.11 lbs. as opposed to 13.99 lbs. per house prior to the program. This represents a 43.75% increase in the mixed paper capture rate since the start of the cart program.

Blue Bag Pilot – Testing of the effectiveness of the use of plastic bags for recycling is completed. Analysis is underway. Review of a portion of the draft report has been completed and revisions are being made.

Cooperative Collection - The Division received the draft report at the end of the month and it is currently under review.

Compro Pilot – The County is working on developing a pilot Compro production at an MES facility in Baltimore, MD.

Tubgrinding Pilot – On August 4th, the County will start another tubgrinding of screened reject material at the Compost Facility.

FACILITY ACTIVITIES

Resource Recovery Facility – The RRF processed 62,153 tons, or 2,072 tons per day. This is the most trash ever processed in one month due primarily to the low BTU value of the waste. Trash deliveries have risen to close to 15,000 tons/week, averaging 14,838 for the month. There was one unscheduled outage during the month. Unit 3 came down on June 25th for approximately 25 hours due to a feed chute plug.

There were no OSHA recordable incidents during the month.

There were no generation emergencies issued by Mirant during the month of June. No power was purchased from Mirant during the month.

There were two forecasted Code Red days in June.

There were no reportable air or water quality environmental excursions during the month.

The following environmental activities occurred:

- Submitted the June 2003 Potable Water Monthly Operating Report to MDE;
- Performed the monthly visible emission (Method 9) observation required by the RRF's Title V permit;
- Developed a NO_x annual emissions tracking system;
- Performed sludge sampling;
- Notified and submitted report to MDE regarding a spill on June 27th.

Materials Recovery Facility – Approximately 1,732 tons of commingled material were shipped out, and approximately 5,180 tons of mixed paper were loaded out and transferred to the Office Paper Systems processing facility. Recycling revenue for FY03—\$1,107,941.32—exceeded that of FY02, which was \$1,052,525.11. The gain occurred despite the fact that the facility was shut down for three months in FY03 while new processing equipment was installed. Market prices and tonnage increases from FY02 to FY03 contributed to the increases, but the revenue increase is primarily due to the improved sorting capabilities (3 categories of plastics) the new system offers.

Oaks Landfill – Materials for improvements to the landfill gas system continued to be delivered to the site. Construction is scheduled to start in July.

A preconstruction meeting was held with MRC Construction, the contractor for subdividing the leachate storage lagoons to facilitate long-term maintenance. Construction will be delayed until the leachate inventory in the raw leachate lagoons is brought down through treatment and hauling. Once all leachate can comfortably fit into one of the two raw leachate storage lagoons, one lagoon will be drained into the other, and construction will begin. This will be achievable sometime in July barring further heavy rains.

Gude Landfill – Several additional leachate seeps and drainage problems were repaired.

Beantown Dump – Work installing landfill gas vent wells at the former Beantown Dump Site is complete.

Transfer Station – During June, Covanta shipped via rail 60,326 tons of processible waste from the Transfer Station to the RRF, 8,630 more tons than shipped in June 2002.

Litter was collected by MES along Shady Grove Road from Route 355 to the intersection with Muncaster Mill Road.

The inbound radiation detectors had 10 alarms in June 2003, including 2 false alarms (alarms that could not be re-verified) - all of the valid alarms were identified as medical isotopes with short half-lives, including some cases where the driver had undergone recent medical treatment, and were accepted.

Site 2 Landfill Properties – The lease for the Chiswell property is being negotiated. Comments on the draft Site 2 landfill refuse disposal permit are being reviewed by MDE. Submitted an application for a septic system to replace the system at the Draper property.

Yard Trim Compost Facility – In June, the Yard Trim Compost Facility received 6,759 tons of material for composting. The year to date figure is 80,131 tons received; 1,116 tons of yard trim was exported to a waste management composting facility in Tidewater, VA. The County is developing an RFP to handle future tonnage increases.

No debris was sent to the RRF.

Seven thousand five hundred and ninety-seven (7,597) cubic yards of Leafgro were shipped to distributors.

Bagging Operation – In June, 20,023 bags of Leafgro were shipped to distributors (each bag is 1.5 cubic ft. weighing 45 lbs.).

Fire Hydrant Installation – Installation of hydrant is complete.

Linden Farm Renovations – Roof repair work on the Gothic Barn is complete.

Out-of-County Haul

Brunswick County, Virginia - During the month of June, about 16,877 tons of ash residue and about 8,226 tons of nonprocessable waste were transported to the County's dedicated disposal cell at the Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc. (BWMF) Landfill in Brunswick County, Virginia. About 708 tons of rubble were recycled this month at Clean Earth in Hagerstown, MD. BWMF continued performing repairs on the container fleet with two welding crews. The ash that the containers carry is extremely corrosive due to the high pH from the lime in the air pollution control system at the RRF and the moisture from the ash quenching. BWMF is investigating replacement of the container fleet. Better cleaning of container door edges and gaskets after ash tipping at the landfill reduced the number of reported leaking containers.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Important Telephone Numbers

General information on solid waste	240-777-6400
Customer Service	240-777-6410
Transfer Station	301-840-2370 (County Office) 301-590-1032 (Covanta)
Materials Recovery Facility	301-840-2701 (County Office) 301-417-1447 (MES)
Resource Recovery Facility	240-777-6494 (County Office) 301-916-3031 (Covanta)
Yard Trim Compost Facility	301-428-8185 (MES)
Internet for DSWS	www.mcrecycles.org

Note: All comments, questions, and suggestions on the contents of this report should be addressed to:

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SOLID WASTE FACTS IN A NUTSHELL

TOPIC OR FACILITY	
Latest Recycling Rate Reported in Montgomery County	37.4% (FY02)
Recycling Goal	45% by December 2002 50% by December 2004
Resource Recovery Facility (RRF)	Guaranteed Capacity = 85% of 1800 TPD on an annual basis (558,450 tons/yr @ 5,500 BTU/lb waste).
Yard Trim Composting Facility (DCF)	Operations limited to receipt of 77,000 tons/year under Sugarloaf Settlement Agreement. FY02 tons received- 63,634
# Residences receiving trash collection by County contractors	84,959
# Residences receiving collection of recyclables in blue bins and yard waste collection	203,181
Term of out-of-county waste transportation and disposal contract with Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc.	June 19, 1997 through June 30, 2012 with an option for a five-year renewal. (Service started on October 20, 1997.)

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

AAR	American Ash Recycling, Inc.
APC	Air Pollution Control
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers
CDL	Commercial Driver's License
CEMS	Continuous Emissions Monitoring System
CFR	Code of Federal Regulation
CIP	Capital Improvements Program
COD	Cash on Delivery
COG	Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
CSX	Chesapeake Transportation Systems
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DFS	Division of Facilities and Services
DNR	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FIG	Facilities Implementation Group
GFA	Gross Floor Area
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
IFB	Invitation For Bid
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
LFG	Landfill Gas
LTTS	Leachate Thermal Treatment System
MCPS	Montgomery County Public Schools
MCR	Maximum Continuous Rating
MDE	Maryland Department of Environment
MES	Maryland Environmental Service
Mg/l	Milligrams per liter
M-NCPPC	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
MWh	Mega Watt hours
NMWDA	Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority
NOV	Notice of Violation
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
NTP	Notice to Proceed
OLAC	Oaks Landfill Advisory Commission
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OPS	Office Paper Systems
PEPCO	Potomac Electric Power Company
PSA	Public Service Announcement
RFP	Request for Proposal
ROL	Reduced Operating Level
RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
SCA	Sugarloaf Citizens Association
SHA	State Highway Administration
SORRT	Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons
SDAT	State Department of Assessments and Taxation
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
TXA 170	Computer Interface Program (Property Account Database)
TCLP	Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure
TPD	Tons Per Day
TRRAC	Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums
UT	Ultra-sonic Testing